

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 7.

European advices to the 25th, brought by steamers at Halifax and New York are published in the Northern papers this morning. — The death of the Duke of Malakof is announced. The news of the battles in Virginia caused a profound sensation in England, and the people were astounded at the magnitude of the losses. The probable result of the contest was eagerly canvassed. The London Times says Grant has sustained his reputation for unconquerable tenacity; and if he did not achieve an absolute success, he bid for it more desperately and approached it more nearly than any predecessor. It thinks it hard to discern the inclination of the balance, so evenly do the scales of battle appear to be weighed. — The Times thinks that if Grant captures Richmond the Confederate cause is not lost, and its downfall will be at the expense of great loss of life to the Federals. The London Morning Post, (government organ,) sees no appreciable advantage on either side—but on the following day it expresses a conviction that the Federals sustained a crushing defeat. The London Star, (Liberal) thinks that General Grant has paid too dear for his victory—and regards his success as undecisive. The London Morning Herald (Lord Derby's organ,) pronounces the advance on Richmond a failure, and hopes the South has passed its last fiery trial. The London Globe (Lord Palmerston's organ,) thinks that Gen. Lee fully succeeded in barring the road of Grant to Richmond. Under the impression caused by the news of the battles, as received through Federal sources, the Confederate loan declined 5@6 per cent. The Laird's ram have been purchased by the British Government.

In the United States House of Representatives yesterday, Mr. Davis of Maryland, moved for a suspension of the rules, but the House refused to suspend them. His object was understood to be to make a report from the Committee on Foreign Affairs in vindication of the duties and functions of that body with respect to their late expression against French interference in Mexico to establish monarchical institutions. They deny the proposition of President Lincoln as asserted by Secretary Seward, that such subjects practically belong to the Executive, and not to the legislative department. The Committee claim that Congress have a right to pass upon foreign affairs, either in conjunction with, or independently of the Executive. The report, in order to show that such has been the practice, cites the cases of South America and Texas in illustration; and concludes with a resolution, declaring that it is the right and duty of Congress to express themselves as to the foreign policy of the government, and that this action ought not to be made the subject of diplomatic correspondence. The report of the committee is almost unanimous.

It was reported at the White House that in the fight on Friday night the 25th and 40th Massachusetts regiments were badly cut up.

Gold, in New York, yesterday, closed at 193½.

Late Richmond papers publish a correspondence that has taken place between Gov. Vance, of North Carolina and President Davis, in regard to the suggestion of the former as to the feasibility of opening up some communication with the United States Government looking to peace, for the purpose of removing "all sources of discontent in North Carolina." Mr. Davis in reply says:

"We have made three distinct efforts to communicate with the authorities at Washington, and have been invariably unsuccessful. Commissioners were sent before hostilities were begun, and the Washington Government refused to receive them or hear what they had to say. A second time I sent a military officer with a communication addressed by myself to President Lincoln. The letter was received by Gen. Scott, who did not permit the officer to see Mr. Lincoln, but promised that an answer would be sent. No answer has ever been received. The third time, a few months ago, a gentleman was sent whose position, character and reputation were such as to insure his reception, if the enemy were not determined to receive no proposals whatever from the Government. Vice President Stephens made a patriotic tender of his services in the hope of being able to promote the cause of humanity, and although little belief was entertained of his success I cheerfully yielded to his suggestion, that the experiment should be tried. The enemy refused to let him pass through their lines or to hold any conference with them. He was stopped before he ever reached Fortress Monroe on his way to Washington. To attempt again (in the face of these repeated rejections of all conference with us) to send commissioners or agents to propose peace, is to invite insult and contumely, and to subject ourselves to indignity without the slightest chance of being listened to.

No true citizen, no man who has our cause at heart can desire this, and the good people of North Carolina would be the last to approve of such an attempt, if aware of all the facts. So far from removing sources of discontent, such a course would receive, as it would merit the condemnation of those true patriots who have given their blood and their treasure to maintain the freedom, equality and independence which descended to them from the immortal heroes of King's Mountain and other battle fields of the Revolution. If, then, these proposals cannot be made through envoys, because the enemy would not receive them, how is it possible to communicate our desire for peace otherwise than by the public announcements contained in almost every message I ever sent to Congress?

I cannot recall at this time one instance in which I have failed to announce that our only desire was peace, and the only terms which formed a *sine qua non*, were precisely those which you suggested, namely, "a demand only to be let alone." But suppose it were practicable to obtain a conference through Commissioners with the Government of President Lincoln, is it at this moment we are to consider it desirable or even at all admissible. Have we not just been apprised by that despot that we can only expect his generous pardon by emancipating all our slaves, swearing allegiance and obedience to him and his proclamation, and becoming in point of fact the slaves of our own negroes? Can there then be in North Carolina one citizen so fallen beneath the dignity of his ancestors as to accept, or enter into conference on the basis of these terms? That there are a few traitors in the South who would be willing to betray their fellow citizens to such a degraded condition, in hope of being rewarded for treachery by an escape from the common doom may be true. But I do not believe that the vilest wretch would accept such terms for himself. I cannot conceive how the people of your State, than which none has sent nobler or more gallant soldiers to the field of battle (one of whom it is your honor to be) can have been deceived by anything to which you refer in "the recent action of the Federal

House of Representatives." I have seen no action of that House that does not indicate by a very decided majority, the purpose of the enemy to refuse all terms of the South, except a solute, unconditional subjugation or extermination. But if it were otherwise, how are we to treat with the House of Representatives?

It is with Lincoln alone that we ever could confer, and his own parizans at the North avow unequivocally that his purpose in his message and proclamation was to shut out all hope that he could ever treat with us on any terms. If we will break up our Government, dissolve the Confederacy, disband our armies, emancipate our slaves, take an oath of allegiance binding ourselves to obedience to him and of disloyalty to our own State's, he proposes to pardon us and not to plunder us of anything more than the property already stolen from us and such slaves as still remain. In order to render his proposal so insulting as to secure their rejection he joins to them a promise to support with his army one tenth of the people of any State who will attempt to set up a government over the other nine tenths, thus seeking to sow discord and suspicion among the people of the several States, and to excite them to civil war in furtherance of his ends. I know well it would be impossible to get your people, if they possess full knowledge of these facts, to consent that proposals should now be made by us to those who control the Government at Washington. Your own well known devotion to the great cause of liberty and independence, to which we have all committed whatever we have of earthly possessions, would induce you to take the lead in repelling the bare thought of any submission to the enemy. Yet peace on other terms is now impossible. To obtain the sole terms to which you or I could listen, this struggle must continue until the enemy is beaten out of his vain confidence in our subjugation. Then, and not till then, will it be possible to treat of peace. Till then all tender of terms to the enemy will be received as proof that we are ready for submission, and will encourage him in the atrocious warfare which he is waging."

DIED.

On Monday evening June 6th, MARY ANNA, eldest daughter of Jane Eliza and the late James King, aged 6 years.

GAS STOVES with Rubber Tubing, to connect with ordinary Gas Burners, hundreds of them sold—

PURNAM'S CLOTHES-WRINGER,

HACKER'S PATENT

CREAM FREEZERS,

CHILDREN'S BATHING TUBS,

WIRE COVERS,

FLY BRUSHES,

TOILET SETS,

PLATED WARE of superior quality. For sale at **OGDEN'S House Furnishing Store,**

519 7th street, near Penn. avenue.

Washington, my 31—1w*

A CARD.

THE undersigned having purchased the stock, good will and fixtures of the well-known Grocery and Provision Store of the late John E. Henderson, begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally that he is now in receipt of a fresh supply of **CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES**, and most respectfully solicits a share of public patronage.

W. F. HENDERSON,

ap 15—tf

No. 226, King st., cor. Alfred.

HATS,

CAPS

SPRING STYLES!

JUST received, a large and well selected stock of the latest styles of **SILK, SLOUCH AND WOOL HATS**, of all quality and kind, which I offer on the most reasonable terms, for cash.

Also, a large and varied assortment of **CHILDREN'S HATS AND CAPS.** **JOHN HOWELL,** mh 19—tf No. 156 King street

If you wish to buy your **DRY GOODS** at the right figure, call on my 4—tf **H. SCHWARZ**

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE

JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

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